ABSTRACT

A system and method that mirrors data between two geographically separate locations. A preferred embodiment of the software includes three components: an AIM driver, an AIM service coordinator and an AIM manager. The AIM driver intercepts all disk I/Os to the local storage system and encapsulates the write transactions into a series of files. The AIM service coordinator transmits these files over any or all remote networks having remote storage systems connected to the local storage system and to which the data is to be mirrored. In a preferred embodiment, particular destinations for each write transaction may be user specified. These files, as they are received at the remote storage system, are placed into the file system of the remote storage system. The AIM service coordinator on the remote storage system detects the arrival of the files and accesses them. The content of these files (exact copies of the write transactions issued at the local system) are then re-driven within the remote storage system as write transactions to the remote disk drive, in exactly the same way as they would have occurred on the local storage system.

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